

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously presented) A system for image-formation comprising:

an image input apparatus configured to create a plurality of original monochromatic image files for output, each of the plurality of original monochromatic image files including a plurality of image pages formed from characters and images;

an image-storage apparatus configured to store the plurality of original monochromatic image files created by the image input apparatus;

an image-formation apparatus configured to form an original multicolor image file for output by selecting a plurality of desired original monochromatic image files from among the plurality of original monochromatic image files stored in the image-storage apparatus and combining the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files in page units; and

an image output apparatus configured to replace the original multicolor image file formed by the image-formation apparatus with predetermined colors and output the original multicolor image file;

wherein at least one of the image input apparatus, the image output apparatus, and the image-formation apparatus includes a display section displaying collectively the plurality of image pages of each of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files for each file, prior to combining said plurality of selected original monochromatic image files in page units.

2. - 4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein

the image-formation apparatus is configured to designate colors at a time of output from the image output apparatus, for the plurality of image pages displayed at the display section; and

the image-formation apparatus colors the plurality of image pages displayed at the display section with the designated output colors of the image output apparatus, superposes the plurality of colored image pages with output layout from the image output apparatus, and displays the plurality of colored and superposed image pages at the display section.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein

the plurality of image pages are thumbnail images with lowered resolutions.

8. (Previously presented) An apparatus for image-formation comprising:

a first data input/output section configured to input a plurality of original monochromatic image files for output from an external image input apparatus, the plurality of original monochromatic image files including a plurality of image pages formed from characters and images;

an image-storage section configured to store the plurality of original monochromatic image files created by the external image input apparatus via the first data input/output section;

a control section configured to form an original multicolor image file for output by selecting a plurality of desired original monochromatic image files from among the plurality of original

monochromatic image files stored in the image-storage section and combining the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files in page units ; and

a second data input/output section configured to output the original multicolor image file formed by the control section to an external image output apparatus which replaces the original multicolor image file with predetermined colors and outputs;

wherein the control section outputs collectively the plurality of image pages of each of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files for each file to a display section provided at the external image input apparatus itself or via at least one of the first data input/output section and the second data input/output section, prior to combining said plurality of selected original monochromatic files in page units.

9. – 11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

the control section is configured to designate colors at a time of output from the external image output apparatus, for the plurality of image pages displayed at the display section; and

the control section colors the plurality of image pages displayed at the display section with the designated output colors from the external image output apparatus, superposes the plurality of colored image pages with output layout from the external image output apparatus, and displays the plurality of colored and superposed image pages at the display section.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

the plurality of image pages are thumbnail images with lowered resolutions.

15. (Previously presented) A computer-readable recording medium for recording a program for image-formation, the program comprising:

selecting a plurality of desired original monochromatic image files from among a plurality of original monochromatic image files for output, the plurality of original monochromatic image files including a plurality of image pages formed from characters and images, and spooled in a queue;

rasterizing the plurality of image pages of each of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files;

displaying collectively the plurality of rasterized image pages of each of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files at a display apparatus for each file; and

forming an original multicolor image file for output by combining the plurality of original monochromatic image files in page units, prior to combining said plurality of selected original monochromatic image files in page units.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 15, the program further comprising:

determining how to combine the plurality of image pages of an original monochromatic image file, having a maximum number of image pages, of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files with the plurality of image pages of each of other original monochromatic image files.

18. (Previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 15, the program further comprising:

designating colors at a time of output from the image output apparatus, for the plurality of image pages displayed at the display section; and

coloring the plurality of image pages displayed at the display apparatus with the designated output colors of the image output apparatus, superposing the plurality of colored image pages with output layout from the image output apparatus, and displaying the plurality of colored and superposed image pages at the display apparatus.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein

the plurality of image pages are thumbnail images with lowered resolutions.

21. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the image-formation apparatus enables a blank page to be inserted between the plurality of image pages of each of the plurality of original monochromatic image files.

22. (Previously presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the image-formation apparatus enables at least one function to be selected, the function including copying a page, pasting a page, deleting a page, and rearranging pages.

23. (Previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein
a blank page is enabled to be inserted between the plurality of image pages of each of the plurality of original monochromatic image files.

24. (Previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 15, wherein
at least one function is selectable, the function including copying a first page, pasting a page, deleting a page and rearranging pages.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein
the image-formation apparatus determines how to combine the plurality of image pages of an original monochromatic image file, having a maximum number of image pages, of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files with the plurality of image pages of each of other original monochromatic image files.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein
the control section determines how to combine the plurality of image pages of an original monochromatic image file, having a maximum number of image pages, of the plurality of selected

original monochromatic image files with the plurality of image pages of each of other original monochromatic image files.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

a blank page is enabled to be inserted between the plurality of image pages of each of the plurality of original monochromatic image files.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein

at least one of functions is selectable, the functions including copying a page, pasting a page, deleting a page, and rearranging pages.

29. – 35. Cancelled

36. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for image-formation comprising:

a first data input/output section configured to input a plurality of original monochromatic images for output from an external image input apparatus, the plurality of original monochromatic images being formed from characters and images;

an image-storage section configured to store the plurality of original monochromatic images created by the external image input apparatus via the first data input/output section as a plurality of original monochromatic image files, each of the plurality of original monochromatic image files including one or more pages;

a control section configured to form an original multicolor image for output by selecting a plurality of desired original monochromatic image files from among the plurality of original monochromatic images stored in the image-storage section and combining one original monochromatic image file, having a maximum number of pages, of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files and each of other original monochromatic image files of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files in page units, the original multicolor image for output having the maximum pages; and

a second data input/output section configured to output the original multicolor image formed by the control section to an external image output apparatus which replaces the original multicolor image with predetermined colors and outputs;

wherein the control section outputs collectively as a group the one or more pages of each of the plurality of selected original monochromatic image files to a display section provided at the external image input apparatus itself or via at least one of the first data input/output section and the second data input/output section, wherein the control section allows the display section to display a plurality of groups prior to combining said plurality of selected original monochromatic image files.

37. – 40. Cancelled